

Waste Reduction Task Force

Infrastructure and Financial Development Work Group #4

Second Meeting – November 29, 2007

Meeting Summary

Work Group Members Present: Randy Etheridge, Mark Kinsey (by phone),

Others Present: Mike Cary Obion Solid Waste Director, Andy Ashford City of Memphis, Sharon Smith Metro/Nashville (via phone), and Mike Stooksberry UT-CTAS

Facilitator: Larry Christley, TDEC

Meeting was held in Memphis, Tennessee at the Environmental Field Office. Meeting started a little after 9:00 a.m. and adjourned about 12:00 p.m. Topics discussed were the prioritization of the Task Force's brain storming session's issues and new directions from the first meeting and the Recycling Rebate program offered to the top eleven generators.

The Work Group invited Andy Ashford and Sharon Smith to comment on the use of the recycling rebate and any suggested systemic changes that should have been considered. Both were very happy with the program but suggested that the State consider dropping the 50% match on the rebate. This would eliminate internal barriers within both local governments to procure the needed recycling equipment both would like to acquire. The barriers shared include the way the local governments handle budgets and capital expenses. A change by the Department would allow the local governments to access quicker and for the more needed use instead of a general type funding they have to use it for currently.

The Work Group and visitors prioritized the issues and directions with the following outcome.

Issue Priorities:

1. Grants for tires running out of money
2. Financial Accountability (Total Cost Accounting, Enterprise Fund)
3. Award and reward local governments and programs with funding for achieving goals
4. Educate public leaders on financial and infrastructure needs
5. Make priority on these issues and give a sense of urgency
6. Educate those eligible for grants
7. Do local government solid waste programs have access to state revolving loan fund?
8. NOT AN ISSUE – Allow municipalities to establish solid waste authorities similar to Part 9 Authorities.

New Direction Priorities:

1. Review previous grants
2. New or pilot programs for new solid waste programs
3. Make reporting back part of the grant
4. Create new markets/facilitate –(RMCT provides this currently) Direction has been re-worded
5. Conduct situational analysis and develop best management practices
6. Address infrastructure needs and shortfalls

Since several work group members were unable to attend this meeting, the meeting adjourned after discussing the most pressing points (prioritization and the recycling rebate). It was agreed that the work group would focus on infrastructure at the next work group meeting some time in January. The meeting will likely be held in Trenton again.

The group requests the following information from TDEC:

- None requested at this time.

Areas to look further into include:

- Focus discussions on infrastructure next meeting